Postcard Exchange – Global Art Exchange

From: Where is humanity? 

Every century poses the question of what it means to be a human being in its time. Goethe pursued the idea in “Faust”, Ibsen in “Peer Gynt”, and since its time. Waldorf education is a movement that uses art and drama to bring this question to the forefront and to engage in the great questions of our time. Currently three further films are in development, one of them about childhood in a digitalized world. People all over the world are working with Waldorf education initiatives for most people. Therefore, we want to use the medium of films to depict how people contribute to Waldorf projects around the world. The website waldorf-100.org continually reports on progress. The heart of the organisation is the interactive global map, which shows all initiatives as they originate around the world.

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“Where is humanity?”, if they consent to send us their own essays, plays, poems and prose texts that deal with the question of what it means to be a human being in its time. Goethe pursued the idea in “Faust”, Ibsen in “Peer Gynt”, and since its time. Waldorf education is a movement that uses art and drama to bring this question to the forefront and to engage in the great questions of our time. Currently three further films are in development, one of them about childhood in a digitalized world. People all over the world are working with Waldorf education initiatives for most people. Therefore, we want to use the medium of films to depict how people contribute to Waldorf projects around the world. The website waldorf-100.org continually reports on progress. The heart of the organisation is the interactive global map, which shows all initiatives as they originate around the world.
1,100 schools and 1,700 kindergartens practice Waldorf educational principles in over 80 countries on all continents of the earth. One hundred years after the first Waldorf school opened, the movement has become a world-wide force for educating young people by promoting individual freedom, equality and brotherhood, and the peaceful coexistence of humanity as the starting point and objective of all pedagogical activity. Waldorf 100 aspires to further develop the cooperation and effectiveness of Waldorf education in a global exchange throughout the entire world – and with you!

Waldorf educational initiatives are as diverse as the people who work together under so many different cultural, social, geographical, religious, and political conditions. Our efforts are bound together by a common ethos, recreated again and again by focusing on the developing human being.

Increasing numbers of colleagues are preparing to celebrate the Centennial by using “head, heart, and hand” to re-discover the principles of Waldorf education and revive the dialogue on developing this path, as well as supporting the global “Bees & Trees” action at their schools.

“...there’s nought outside and nought within, for she is inside out and outside in.” Goethe’s words shed light on the basic idea behind our joint Waldorf 100 project, with which we want to:

• globally strengthen and rediscover our educational principles by studying the basic pedagogical writings of Rudolf Steiner and the relevant literature of our own times,
• practice awakening other people by seeking a dialogue on educational development with parents and teachers, within our faculty and with other schools,
• create something effective and visible for nature within the entire school community by inviting bees into all Steiner/Waldorf facilities throughout the world (see “Bees & Trees”).

Five large-scale joint projects for our students are being prepared and will be available to all Waldorf facilities. They are funded by the joint financing scheme and are introduced below. There are many other ideas that first will have to be brought to life, provided donors are found for them.

We will celebrate our major joint Centennial festival on September 19, 2019 – in the individual facilities, together with others, and at a central location: the main Centennial celebration will take place in the Tempodrom in Berlin.

A jury under the direction of Elmar Lampson, President of the Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hamburg (Hamburg University of Music and Drama) has examined a number of works submitted from all over the world and selected pieces by two young composers that will be available to all upper school orchestras of Steiner/Waldorf Schools from July 2018. Waldorf education always lives from the specific initiatives of specific people. We are planning our Centennial as a festival in which every school can contribute locally, by region, by continent, or world-wide. Whatever it is in detail depends on your ideas. Perhaps your class will want to share something? Or the parents of your school? Maybe a large-scale art event? A public activity? An ecological project? A cooperative project with a partner school somewhere on the other side of the globe? Or maybe right next door?

Every idea is heartily welcome! Let’s make our Centennial become a fountain of youth whose potential in our time we are only beginning to discover.

The common thread Joint projects Bees & Trees

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What you can do

waldfro-100.org
/en/project/metamorphoses/

When bees do well, humans do too. Bees are a core theme of Waldorf 100. We have set ourselves the goal of making all Waldorf facilities into “bee oases” by 2019, places where these creatures of the sun can live and recover their health and swarm out once again. Bees&Trees applies to the entire school community, from practical work for first graders to research projects in the twelfth grade. Every bee oasis project should include planting at least one tree and creating a large bee pasture for honey bee foraging. From 2019 a “Waldorf 100 Bee feast” will be provided: little bags containing Demeter seeds of flowering plants that bees, wild bees, and other insects particularly like.

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“Metamorphosis” compositions

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